

APPENDIX

¹ 12. A process for racemising an enantiomer-enriched Schiff base of a primary amide of an amino acid which process comprises contacting said enantiomer-enriched Schiff base of a primary amide of an amino acid with a strong base in an organic solvent, wherein said strong base is chemically reactive with water.

² 13. The process of claim 12 wherein the strong base is a metal alkoxide, a metal alkyl, a metal amide, or a metal hydride.

³ 14. The process of claim 13 wherein the strong base is a metal alkoxide.

⁴ 15. The process of claim 12 wherein the strong base is present in an amount of 0.001-1000 mole% relative to the enantiomer-enriched Schiff base.

⁵ 16. The process of claim 15 wherein the strong base is present in an amount of 0.1-100 mole% relative to the enantiomer-enriched Schiff base.

⁶ 17. The process of claim 12 wherein the enantiomer-enriched Schiff base is an N-benzylidene primary amino acid amide.

⁷ 18. The process of claim 12 wherein the enantiomer-enriched Schiff base is derived from an aliphatic primary amino acid amide.

⁸ 19. The process of claim 18 wherein the enantiomer-enriched Schiff base is derived from tertiary-leucine amide.

⁹ 20. The process of claim 12 wherein the organic solvent is an aromatic hydrocarbon, a cyclic aliphatic hydrocarbon or an ether.

¹⁰ 21. The process of claim 20 wherein the organic solvent is an aromatic hydrocarbon.

~~22.~~ The process of claim ~~12~~ wherein said enantiomer-enriched Schiff base has been prepared from the primary amide of the amino acid in said organic solvent.